

**U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities**

**Call for Expressions of Interest for impact investment proposals by 10/11/21**

The U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities seeks to make program-related investments in projects and investments that advance systemic, transformative and sustainable change for the health and vitality of working forests and forest-reliant communities in the U.S.

Ahead of anticipated board funding approval we welcome inquiries from companies, funds, project developers and others that seek investment in:

* **Carbon credit funds** that have a focus on forests in the U.S.
* **Digital and software-based technologies** designed to advance forest health and economies, e.g., mapping and monitoring software, or digital platforms to facilitate transactions involving forests.
* **Hardware-based technologies** designed to advance forest health and economies, e.g., fire monitoring systems, sensors, or treatments for trees.
* **New markets for forest products** such as biochar, bioliquids, bioenergy with carbon capture and storage, and mass timber.
* **Real estate development** using forest products—such as timber, mass timber, or biochar—and on a sustainable basis.

**Preconditions and eligibility requirements**

The Endowment will only evaluate impact investments in companies, funds, and projects that:

* Advance the health and vitality of the nation’s working forests and forest-reliant communities.
* Perceive an opportunity for the Endowment play a unique and catalytic role as an investor.
* Are within the U.S.
* Are $100-$600K in size.
* Have a need and clear use for the capital, 3-6 months after approval.
* Represent 20–70% of the total investment sought by the counterparty.

**To express interest:**

Interested parties should complete the form on the next page, and send it to the three contacts below by October 11, 2021:

Peter Stangel, US Endowment, [peter@usendowment.org](mailto:peter@usendowment.org)

Sean Penrith, Gordian Knot Strategies, [spenrith@gordianknotstrategies.com](mailto:spenrith@gordianknotstrategies.com)

Daniel Pike, Gordian Knot Strategies, [dpike@gordianknotstrategies.com](mailto:dpike@gordianknotstrategies.com)

 *Supported by*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | ***Please provide the following information:*** |
| **Name, title, and role** | *Your name, title, and role.* |
| **Contact info.** | *Your email and phone number.* |
| **Organization info.** | *The name and website of your organization.* |
| **Organization snapshot** | *Your organization’s annual revenue, length of time in operation, and track record in raising capital and delivering returns.* |
| **Nature of the investment** | *The nature of the investment, i.e., in a company, fund, project, or other vehicle; in the form of structured debt, equity, or other instrument.* |
| **Fundraising amounts and timelines** | *The amount of investment you plan to raise, the amount you seek from the Endowment, and date by which you intend to secure investment.* |
| **Proposed investment structure** | *Whether you seek a PRI or some form of guarantee or underwriting from the Endowment; How this fits into the overall structure of your fundraise.* |
| **Projected investment returns and timelines** | *The returns you expect the Endowment would see, as an investor—including relevant timeframes.* |
| **Business model** | *If you are a company or fund, outline your model for generating economic value. If you are a project seeking finance, outline the economics of your project and what your sources of revenue (not investment) will be.* |
| **Customers and constituents** | *If you are a company, provide evidence of how well you know and serve your customers; if you are a fund or project, provide evidence of how well you know and serve your project’s key stakeholders and constituents.* |
| **Your right to win** | *If you are a company or fund, describe the markets you compete in, your primary competitors, and what your competitive advantages are; if you are a project, describe the market for projects like yours, whether that market is growing, who else participates in it, and why you and your partners are uniquely well-positioned to succeed in this and future projects.* |
| **Projected scale of impact and timelines** | *The impact you expect to have on the health and vitality of U.S. forests and forest-reliant communities, as a result of this investment—including relevant timeframes.* |
| **Systems or plans in place to measure, report, and ensure impact** | *The systems you have in place—or plan to put in place—to measure and report impact and ensure it is achieved.* |
| **Counterparties and stakeholders** | *The main counterparties to the investment, and any advisors or entities involved. If you are a project, outline any key project partners.* |
| **Team** | *Describe your leadership team and any key personnel. Attach resumes for them.* |